



At-A-Glance Tip Sheet

Watering Tips:

- ◆ Water Your lawn between 4 am and 8 am to prevent evaporation
- ◆ Water slowly and deeply---deep watering encourages root growth
- ◆ Don't over water. Generally your lawn needs only about 1 inch of water every 7 to 20 days to remain healthy.
- ◆ Use a soaker hose or drip irrigation.
- ◆ Use an automatic time controller and attach a rainfall sensor to turn off the irrigation system if significant rainfall has occurred.

Landscape Planning and Design:

- ◆ When planting, group plants and turf with similar water needs in the same zone.
- ◆ Plan for shade – a shaded landscape can be as much as 20 degree cooler than a landscape in full sun and preserves moisture.
- ◆ Arbors, trellis, and fences with vine covers can be effective sources of shade and help retain moisture.
- ◆ Choose a drought resistant turf, such as Tifway Bermuda or Common Bermuda.
- ◆ Organic mulch acts as an insulation for soil. Spread it out to the drip line and beyond but do not pile it up against trunks.
- ◆ Place newspapers (2 sheets thick) under organic mulch to help conserve water. Soak the newspapers thoroughly after applying the mulch.
- ◆ Create practical turf areas such as small areas near the home entrance.
- ◆ Apply about 3" of mulch under ornamental plants. Use hands to pull mulch back 2-3 inches from the base of the tree or shrub to prevent wood rotting disease.

Landscape Maintenance:

- ◆ Raise the mower blade during dry weather. Cutting the grass higher encourages deeper rooting, increases turf survival during drought, and reduces water demand.
- ◆ Always keep the mower blade sharp –dull blades shred lead tips, causing the turf to use more water.

For more tips, please visit www.conservewatergeorgia.net or www.watersmart.net